

Limoncello apple. Middle and southern Italy, especially Naples, down to and including Sicily. The only apple adapted to a warm and dry climate, at the same time possessing qualities which compare favorably with those of good northern apples. The best variety of apple grown in Italy for the general market. Medium or below medium, apex truncate, constricted below the apex, wider at base. Oblong, much longer than wide. Stalk short, slender, core long, narrow, solid, with very few seeds, flesh solid, white, sweet and subacid, crisp and juicy. Color of skin lemon yellow, shaded to a very slight pinkish flush. Flavor strong, agreeable, resembling that of certain red Cabernet grapes. Very fine shipper. Ripe from end of November to February. This variety is not to be preferred to our better American apples in the northern states, its value consisting in its adaptability to warm countries where the northern apples do not thrive. Should do well in California, Arizona, and Texas, in localities with deep and rich soil. It is superior to any California apples grown on the central and southern plains and compares well with those grown in the mountains, except as to size. Retail at 35, 40 to 50 centesimi a kilo, or from one-half to one cent American each, more or less according to size." (Eisen.)

*Marsdenia tenacissima* (Roxb.) Wight & Arnott. (Asclepiadaceae.) 39685. Seed from the Royal Botanic Garden, Sibpur, near Calcutta, India. Presented by Mr. C. C. Calder. "A climbing plant distributed throughout the lower Himalayas, ascending to 5000 feet from Kumaon to Assam and Burma. The plant is fond of dry barren localities, twining on the bushes and small trees. The bark of the stem yields a large quantity of beautiful fine silky fiber which is extracted by cutting the stems into sections and then scraping them clean with the finger nails or with a stick. The mountaineers of Rajmahal make their bowstrings from this fiber because of its strength and durability. In Dr. Roxburgh's test of twine made from this fiber he found that in the dry and wet states it bore a strain of 248 and 343 pounds, when hemp in the same state bore 158 and 190 pounds. More recent tests however, place it below hemp in strength, but above it in elasticity. The fiber is much used in making fishing nets and is not liable to injury by submersion in water. One of the chief characteristics of this fiber is its elasticity and it is considered to be the second best fiber in India. This species, though producing a good fiber is not in general cultivation, for, being a climber, difficulties exist with which the Indian cultivator has not attempted to deal. A milky juice exudes from the cuts on the stems which thickens into an elastic substance which acts in the same way